

# CITY CONTROL FOR LIBRARIES IS URGED.

Officials Agree That Consolidation Under Municipal Management Is a Remedy for Sunday Closing.

Threat to Take Away Appropriation Does Not Affect Sabbath Shutting Up of Biggest Circulating Libraries.

Managers Say They Have Cut Off Every Expense Possible, and Must Close Branches if Public Money Fails.

Municipal control of the circulating libraries of the city, as urged by the Journal, continued to be a prominent topic of conversation among city officials and citizens yesterday.

Some persons have favored a consolidation of the system of circulating libraries with the new public library that is to be established at Fifth Avenue and Forty-second street. These have thought that municipal control would thereby be secured. That, however, is a mistake. The new public library is to be a consolidation of the Astor, Lenox and Tilden libraries. The city will provide a site and a building, but the library will be managed by a board of twenty-one trustees, one of whom will be the Comptroller of the city, while the other twenty are to be appointed by the Astor, Lenox and Tilden library corporations, and will choose their own successors.

Help from the City Necessary.

The New York Free Circulating Library, with its circulation of over a million books, runs for years without a dollar of city help, and is still largely dependent on the aid of private individuals.

The cut from \$82,000 to \$61,500 in the city's appropriation for it for the coming year and the consequent closing of the library on Sundays have aroused great interest in the subject of municipal control of that library and the many smaller ones that draw from the city an additional \$150,000 annually.

President Guillemeier, of the City Council, said:

"The city ought to have a big circulating library really its own, and be like other cities. We ought not to pay out such an amount of money as \$214,000 without close municipal control."

Comptroller Coler thinks that the numerous libraries should either come under municipal control, or else be consolidated with the Public Library. In the latter case there would doubtless be legislation providing for a greater city representation than one trustee, at least in the circulating department.

In Favor of Consolidation.

Director Billings, of the Public Library, would like to have the various New York circulating libraries attached to the Public Library for central management. It would, he thinks, require an annual expenditure of some \$250,000 to maintain the necessary distributing branches in New York alone.

President J. Frederic Kernochan, of the New York Free Circulating Library, favors an immediate action that would be a step in the line of municipal control. He expects to bring the matter up at the next meeting of the Board, on the second Tuesday in January.

James Loehrer, chairman of the library's Committee of Council, said:

"A movement has been begun for a working federation among the various circulating libraries. This is looked upon by friends of the municipal ownership as an important step in the right direction."

The threat of Comptroller Coler and Corporation Counsel Whelan to cut away next year's appropriation altogether from the New York Free Circulating Library, if the trustees persist in their determination to close on Sundays, has settled with the people for closing the libraries. We should have to give up the libraries in leased buildings, and probably would have to sell two buildings that we own.

**OCEANIC AT LIVERPOOL**  
ONLY 16 HOURS OVERDUE.

Liverpool, Dec. 21.—The White Star liner Oceanic, from New York December 13, arrived at 2 a. m. The Oceanic did not stop at Queenstown, on account of a dense fog.

The Oceanic was only about sixteen hours behind her best record. The anxiety for her probably arose from the big line not having called at Queenstown as usual.

**Roads Get More Time to Equip Cars.**

Washington, Dec. 21.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today decided to grant the request of carriers for extension of the time beyond January 1, 1900, within which to equip their motor cars of the safety appliance law in using automatic couplers and power of train brakes on freight cars. The new time limit is August 1, 1900.

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# MARK HANNA TALKS ABOUT

He Declares Over Speculation Caused the Stock Flurry. Senate Will Pass the Money Bill and the Administration Takes No Interest in Quay.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 21.—To attend a meeting of the Pittsburgh Coal Company, the railroad coal trust, with which all the mines owned by him are connected, United States Senator M. A. Hanna came to Pittsburgh to-day.

When asked if the recent flurry in stocks would have any disastrous effect on business, he replied:

"Not in the least. The country is in excellent shape. It is not always possible to arrange to meet a speculative scare, but there is money sufficient to accommodate the business world."

"The present trouble has nothing whatever to do with actual conditions. It is simply the result of over-speculation and will not be serious, I am confident. It cannot be in any way attributed to the Republican policy."

"The Senate will pass the currency bill, and I do not think it will require very much time."

"On our side there are not many speeches to be made, and I do not think the Democrats will talk to delay action."

"I do not care to discuss the Quay case. There is no truth in the report that the Administration is anxious to intervene to end the fight."

"I do not believe the Administration is taking any interest in the matter."

"The Philadelphia convention will be harmonious and the outlook for the next national campaign is excellent."

"It has always been the custom that no man shall serve as national chairman for two consecutive terms."

"I will continue as chairman until the National convention meets. Who will be selected then, I cannot say."

"I am not taking any hand in the Root-Woodruff controversy, and do not know anything about it."

"The convention will select the ticket, and not I, as some of the papers report."

Mr. Hanna started for Cleveland to-night.

Senator M. A. Hanna.

FINANCIAL STRESS, CURRENCY BILL, QUAY CASE, NATIONAL CONVENTION, HIS CHAIRMANSHIP, ROOT AND WOODRUFF.

STOLE GIFTS FOR HER PUPILS' XMAS. A Sunday School Teacher Caught While Shopping.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 21.—Mrs. Ida Smith, a Wilmington Sunday-school teacher, is in the Central Station under \$800 bail, charged with shoplifting.

Detective Jackel, in a Market street department store, saw her pick up several gold pens from a counter and drop them into a bag she was carrying. She then went to another counter, where she got a silver backed brush and handkerchiefs and toilet articles.

The detective then interfered and placed the woman under arrest. She was taken to the office, despite her cries for mercy, and was searched.

"What did you want with all these things?" asked the detective.

"I am the teacher of a Sunday-school class of eight girls, and as I did not have any money to buy presents for them, something tempted me to steal. Oh, you don't know how sorry I am that I stooped so low! It hurt my pride to see all the other teachers giving their pupils pretty presents."

The prisoner was taken to the City Hall and arraigned before Judge Smith. The judge, after hearing the woman's story, said:

"Why, you've been here before!" said the judge.

"Oh, never, sir; never!" the woman sobbed earnestly.

Jackel then showed to the Judge the various articles she had stolen. He held her in \$800. The prisoner was led back to the pen, weeping hysterically.

# THIEF IN JAIL FOR SEEKING RELIGION.

Confesses His Past in a Mission, and Is Arrested. HE GETS THIRTY DAYS.

Now He Doubts the Sincerity of the Alleged Christian He Called On.

A tall young man with tears streaming down his face arose in the meeting of the Rescue Mission, in Elizabeth, N. J., on Wednesday night and announced that he was a pickpocket and wanted to reform. He hoped the mission would help him, he said.

The young man's statement threw the meeting into confusion. He was arrested immediately and taken to the police station, where he was held until yesterday, when, handcuffed, he was taken before Police Justice Herfield, who sentenced him to the county jail for thirty days on the charge of disorderly conduct.

He gave the name of Alexander and said in jail that he had often heard of Jersey justice, and that a man could not be good in Jersey if he wanted to. He said he had been a pickpocket in London; that he had been hounded by the police all of his life and had left England to be better, and was succeeding until he got to Elizabeth, where he was thrust in jail for trying to serve the Lord.

"I don't mind being in jail," said Alexander, "but to be put in here for nothing is what galls me."

Alexander is thirty-two years old. He said this last imprisonment had turned him against the alleged sincerity of some church people. It is believed the charity organizations of the city will intercede for him.

QUIET CHRISTMAS AT THE WHITE HOUSE THIS YEAR.

State of Mrs. McKinley's Health Prevents Extensive Preparations for the Celebration.

Washington, Dec. 21.—No extensive preparations are being made for the Christmas celebration at the White House this year, owing to the state of Mrs. McKinley's health, and the day probably will be a very quiet one.

Miss Grace McKinley and Miss Sarah Duncan, nieces of the President, will be guests at the Christmas House during the day session. Abner McKinley and his wife also will be here.

Brooke to Return by Easy Stages.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Major-General Brooke will come to Washington from Havana by easy stages. He has been in Cuba nearly two years, and as he is now that he has been deemed best for the protection of his health to permit him to ascend himself gradually to the United States. He is expected to reach this city much before February 1.

Police Interfered To Prevent Deaf People from Killing Each Other in the Effort to Obtain Admission to Dr. Wilson's Free Lecture and Free Treatment Last Evening at 240 Fifth Avenue.

The simplest announcement in the daily papers that Dr. Wilson, the world's greatest artist, is to lecture and give free treatment to the deaf is sufficient to fill to overflowing the largest auditorium in this or any other country, but when the quarters where the lecture is to be given are more circumscribed there is almost a life and death struggle among those who desire to gain admission. The office of the National Association of Physicians and Surgeons, over which Dr. Wilson presides, consists during the day of elegantly furnished and equipped parlors at 240 Fifth Avenue, up one flight, but on Thursday evening of each week these parlors are by an almost magical change transformed into a large and commodious lecture hall, and here it is that on each Thursday evening Dr. Wilson delivers his free illustrated lecture, gives a marvelous exhibition and demonstrates to the public the efficacy of his more than wonderful treatment for the cure of all kinds of deafness.

A week ago last night the crowd was so dense that much injury was done to the furniture, to say nothing of the personal damage and discomfort to many who were jammed into all available portions of the auditorium. Doctor, feeling similar results last evening, appealed to Police Headquarters for protection; consequently when the hall was filled to the extent of its seating capacity a Police detail interfered and prevented others from entering, and a similar course on the part of the Police will be continued every Thursday evening.

A large number made application for free treatment. The cards containing such applications were all placed in a box and thoroughly mixed by shaking, and then a person selected by the audience, being blindfolded, was permitted to draw cards from the box until the limit of the treating capacity for the evening was reached.

The persons whose names were found upon the drawn cards were then given free treatment with results as follows:

Samuel G. Winant, age 55 years, Rossville, S. I.—Totally deaf in both ears for 25 years. Dr. Wilson pronounced him probably incurable on examination. But after treatment he understood a whisper and everything else.

John W. Stetson, age 34 years, 337 East 6th st.—Totally deaf in both ears for 4 years, caused by falling from a building 4 stories high. Heard everything after treatment, but owing to the peculiar injury to the brain could not understand.

John W. Kuschbaum, age 21, 221 E. 107th st., city.—Totally deaf in right ear for 13 years. Heard ordinary conversation after treatment.

Miss Agnes McDonald, age 65 years.—Totally deaf in both ears for 65 years. Understood the lowest conversation in left ear and whisper in right ear after treatment.

John Turner, age 20 years, 334 W. 26th st., city.—Totally deaf in both ears for 17 years. Heard low whisper after treatment.

Miss Isabella Ennis, age 50 years, 423 E. 81st st., city.—Totally deaf in left ear for 10 years. Understood lowest whisper and ordinary conversation 8 feet distant after treatment.

In answer to many inquiries we will state that the office hours for free consultation at the office, 240 Fifth Avenue, are as follows: 10 to 4 week days; 10 to 12 Sundays and holidays; 7 to 8 Wednesday and Friday evenings.

The office will be closed all day Christmas.

# BURNED TO DEATH ON BLAZING BARGE.

Another Man Seen Leaping Into River Not Heard From.

At least one life was lost in a fire which occurred on the North River water front early yesterday morning. Hundreds of bales of hay and straw were consumed and several barges were burned and sunk.

Last evening, a body burned beyond recognition, but supposed to be that of Robert Tierman, fifty-eight years old and homeless, was found in the ruins. The body was taken to the morgue.

The body was discovered in the barge Harvest Queen, which was lying in a slip at West Thirty-fourth street. Captain Felke and his wife and child, who were on board the barge, escaped.

On board the Harvest Queen were 150 bales of burning hay. The sparks set fire to the barge. Captain Felke, who was on board, saw the fire and tried to get the barge away, but the crew pushed them away.

Several times burning bales floated near Howard Gould's yacht, the Niagara, which was moored near by, but the crew pushed them away.

Captain Felke says he saw a man jump into the water from the lighter Smallman and that he was not seen again. The loss by the fire is about \$25,000.

W. C. Hayes Did All the Fattening.

Hempstead, N. Y., Dec. 21.—William C. Hayes was the only victim of to-day's run of the Meadow Brook Hunt Club. Although he came two natty croppers, he was unhurt.

The Journal printed last week 10,817 employment "Want" advts., which is 3,311 more than any other newspaper.

BUY THE GENUINE SYRUP OF FIGS

MANUFACTURED BY CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. NOTE THE NAME.

DRINK HABIT CURED.

Treatment taken at your home. No hypodermic injections. Safe and healthful. Book on alcoholism mailed free. Write or call in alcoholism, THE BARKLEY CURE CO., R. 918, 1121 Broadway, New York.

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Daily Edition (outside of Greater New York and York City)..... Two Cents

Evening Edition..... Five Cents

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Daily and Sunday..... One year.....\$8.00

Six months.....4.00

Three months.....2.00

One month......50

One year.....\$2.50

Six months.....1.25

Three months......60

One month......25

Can be purchased at any of the following places:

Full Mail, American and Colonial Exchange, Carlton, U. S. Bank, S. W.

Messrs. Smith, Stanley & Co., Ormeau House, 29 Newman-st., Strand, W. C.

Scott's Exchange, Trafalgar Building, Trafalgar-st., London, W. C.

Robert A. Thompson & Co., Limited, 8 Farringdon-road, E. C.

Richard P. French, 1 Rue Scribe, Anglo-American Exchange, Paris, France.

Victorine Lafont, 10 Boulevard de Capotone, La Place de Grand Cafe, Paris, France.

# COLER GUILTY OF CONTEMPT COURT.

Justice Beekman Says He Did Not Obey a Writ of Mandamus. HE GETS MORE TIME.

Must Pay Receiver of Croton Aqueduct Contractor or Be Punished.

Comptroller Coler has been adjudged by Justice Beekman guilty of contempt for his failure to issue a warrant directing the City Chamberlain to pay Walston H. Brown, as receiver of one of the contractors for the new Croton aqueduct, a judgment for \$134,114.50.

A peremptory writ of mandamus was issued November 29 directing the Comptroller to issue the warrant and have the money paid.

The Comptroller is given time to comply with the order of the Court or else suffer a penalty to be fixed in case of his contumacy.

Man Who Swindled Ex-Commissioner French Caught at Bridgeport.

Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 21.—An ingenious bunco man, who has almost as many names as he has games, is in jail here charged with swindling John French, former Commissioner of Water Works of Brooklyn, out of \$5,000.

The prisoner is Edward Tibbitts, otherwise Harry Foster, otherwise "Boston" Tibbitts, a man with a national reputation for slickness.

He called upon Mr. French, shook his hand and slapped him on the back: "I'm glad to meet 'pop's' old friend," he exclaimed.

"Who's 'pop'?" Mr. French inquired, a little mystified.

The latter laughed. "Why, I'm Harry Pratt," he said, "son of the Standard Oil man—not you up at the house. How are you? Shake hands again."

Mr. French was convinced and allowed himself to be taken to No. 803 Fulton street to see some books. There one of "Pratt's" accomplices produced a roulette wheel, "Harry Pratt" played and won several thousand dollars, by paltry chance, he suddenly lost \$5,000, however, and couldn't pay it. He looked appealingly at French.

"My heavens!" the bogus "Harry Pratt" exclaimed, "if I don't pay it I shall be disgraced and 'pop' will throw me out of the Standard Oil Company. Lend me \$5,000, Mr. French."

Mr. French went to his bank and drew the money. Then every one but Mr. French suddenly disappeared. He was left alone on the sidewalk. His next move was to become thoughtful. Later he investigated. He found he had been swindled by a very ancient game, a variation of the old-time "I've-just-won-a-fortune-in-a-lottery" arrangement.

Detectives found Tibbitts running a road house six miles from this city. He had started with Mr. French's \$5,000. He was arrested and held in \$5,000 bail. A leading lawyer is fighting the extradition process.

Tibbitts admits that he attempted to "blame" a wealthy farmer out of \$500 at Islip, L. I., on October 8, but the man defeated his plan by stopping payment of a check.

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\$50,000 in Pennies for Holidays.

The holiday season always creates a great demand for pennies hereabouts, and this year proves no exception. The Sub-Treasury yesterday telegraphed to Washington for at least \$10,000 worth of pennies. The many large department houses here have received probably five times that amount of pennies from the Treasury during the past week.

Sealskin Coats.

German dyed, high lustre, with revers and storm collars of mink. Hudson Bay sable, chinchilla and brown marten.

XXX QUALITY.....\$145

XXXX QUALITY.....\$160

EX EX QUALITY.....\$180 to \$225

Ladies' Fur Capes.

SEALSKIN.....\$75, \$100 to \$250

MINK.....\$75, \$100, \$150 to \$250

ALASKA SABLE (SKUNK), \$55, \$75 to \$100

ELECTRIC SEAL (CONY), \$18, \$20, \$25

Fur Neck Scarfs.

(CLUSTER OF TAILS)

RUSSIAN SABLE.....\$100

HUDSON BAY SABLE.....\$50

ALASKA SABLE (SKUNK).....\$5

ALASKA SABLE (SKUNK) EX EX.....\$10

DYED BLUE FOX ANIMAL.....\$16

RED FOX ANIMAL.....\$5

BROWN FOX ANIMAL.....\$5

NATURAL LYNX.....\$10

BLUE LYNX.....\$13.50

MINK XX.....\$5

EX DARK MINK.....\$15 to \$50

STONE MARTEN.....\$14 to \$25

ELECTRIC SEAL (CONY).....\$4.50

Fur Caps and Gloves.

Sealskin Gloves.....\$8, \$10, \$12

Sealskin Gauntlets.....\$10, \$12, \$15

Sealskin Caps.....\$5, \$8, \$10, \$12, \$15

Electric Seal Caps (CONY).....\$3, \$4, \$5

Ladies' Fur Hoods.....\$30

Ladies' Seal Hoods.....\$30

Fur Carriage Robes.

Extra Dark Mink Robes.....\$175 to \$200

Hudson Bay Beaver Robes.....\$125 to \$175

Tiger and Jaguar Robes.....\$75 to \$100

Black Bear Robes.....\$60, \$75 to \$150

Bear Robes.....\$60 to \$150

Black and Gray Goat Robes.....\$5, \$6, \$10

Natural Dog Robes.....\$10, \$12, \$14, \$25

Siberian Wolf Robes.....\$10, \$13, \$15, \$25

Large assortment of Fur Trimmings and Skins for Dresses and Millinery use. Also elegant Fur Rugs in Tiger, Leopard, Jaguar, White, Black, Brown, Cinnamon and Grizzly Bear, from \$10 to \$200. Also Red, Gray and Cross Fox, Panther, Wild Cat, Tiger Cat and hundreds of other kinds, mounted with open and closed jaws, from \$5 to \$20.

Mail Orders Receive Prompt Attention. Illustrated Catalogue Mailed Free.

# LITTLE JAPANESE ACROBATS HELD.

Arrested with Their Manager, Okahe, While Rehearsing. GERRY SOCIETY ACTS.

Six Japanese children were arrested by Gerry Society agents yesterday for performing without a license. They are called Okahe's acrobats. Okahe and the children were taken into custody while rehearsing in Harlem Music Hall.

Okahe is forty-eight years old. He was paroled until today, when the case will be brought up for examination. The children were sent to the rooms of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. They are Kozzi Hane, a girl fourteen years old; Riki Duguchi, a boy eleven years old; Kiki Maki, a boy eight years old; D. Hatan, a boy nine years old; K. Maki, a boy nine years old, and O. Haxel, a girl six years old.

W. H. HALL, Manufacturing Furrier. Established 1856.

Great Two Days' Sale of Furs.

From this morning until the closing of the store to-morrow (Saturday) night we will offer such good values in Furs as will make this sale the talk of the town. It is a bold move at this time—considering that all other dealers are squeezing out all the profit possible—but that is not our way. We want all the business we can get and purpose getting all we can, right now, by making prices fully 25 per cent. lower than all other houses.

Every article in this sale will prove a highly profitable investment, even though there is no immediate use for the purchase.

Persian Lamb Coats.

German dyed, high lustre, with revers and storm collars of mink. Hudson Bay sable, chinchilla and brown marten.

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Complete lines of holiday footwear. Over 100 styles men's slippers. Boys' and children's rubber boots. Ladies' and children's warm and fancy shoes, slippers, leggings, &c.

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Gifts for Men—

Many of them exclusive productions not duplicated at other stores

Bath Robes, \$2.95 to \$10.

House Coats, \$4.75 to \$18.

Mufflers, \$1 to \$5.

Neckwear, 50¢ to \$3.

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HANDKERCHIEFS UMBRELLAS

DRESS SHIRTS WALKING STICKS

JEWELRY

THREE BROADWAY STORES

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13th St. Store Open Evenings Until Christmas.

Does your food sometimes distress you? If so, take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. If the consequences threaten you would shun? Indigestion then will vanish. And stomach ills will vanish. Like the stars before the rising of the sun.